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TUESDAY, AUGUST 4, 1914.

Keep in touch with home news during
vacation by reading The Times-Dispatch

No Man Can Tell

THE outcome and ultimate consequences
of a European war are hidden in
omniscience. No man living may foretell
them.

The destiny of every country in the world
is thrown into the balance. The issue is no
less serious than stated in those terms. The
United States is vitally affected.

It might be thought by the superficial ob-
server that the smaller or weaker states
would be immune from change. In the face
of a cataclysm, that is impossible. Belgium,
Holland and Switzerland are assumed to be
neutral. Panic-stricken by the contagion,
they are mobilizing. Spain and Portugal and
Norway and Sweden, not to mention the
mere "protected" principalities, cannot escape
eventual penalty. If fate throws victory
decisively toward either side, as between
the so-called triple entente and the triple al-
liance, there would be no hesitation to alter
boundary lines at will and without regard to
language, creed or tradition.

Our own shores are safe from invasion, so
far. We are committed to rigid neutrality. But
we have blood ties in England and financial
ties in all European countries, not forgetting
the Far East. It is hazardous to say that
we may not be drawn into the vortex by
some slip of diplomacy, by some madness of
jingoism at home or by one of those curious
turns of fate which seemingly sometimes
make a nation rudderless and without volition.

Financially, our situation to-day is stronger
than that of any other world power. We
cannot tell how long it will remain so. This
is not to indulge in pessimism. But nothing
is gained by blinking facts, and the sooner
facts are confronted the sooner shall we be
in position to reap whatever advantage our
partial aloofness confers upon us.

The position of the Southern States is an
unfortunate one at the moment. We have
made vast strides in manufacturing and gen-
eral commerce, yet our main money reliance
is still upon cotton. Europe is our chief
customer in cotton. If the mills of Europe
are shut down, what then? If they go on
slow time, what then? Even now transatlan-
tic traffic is semiparalyzed. For the first
time in a century, great ships fear to put to
sea.

The administration is engaged in a deter-
mined effort to solve the cotton problem and
our general attitude toward the belligerents.
This can be done in a manner to lessen the
force of the blow to cotton.

Washington plans also to prevent a tie-up
of shipping by so amending the shipping
laws as to admit foreign vessels to Ameri-
can register, under conditions of good faith.
If this scheme is practical, a large part of
the merchant marine of the Old World can
take refuge under the Stars and Stripes. The
tension to that extent will be eased. It is
probable the perplexed powers of the Old
World would interpose no objection to such
a plan.

It is a fallacy to say the United States, not
being a principal, will profit by a European
conflagration. It will not precisely profit,
but it will suffer less than the principals
themselves. Processes of business are so
interwoven in twentieth century civilization
that pressure at one point causes reaction
at all other points. With all European na-
tions at each others' throats, our domestic
business must suffer, to what degree is as
yet impractical to guess.

It is not inconceivable that the stoppage
or slowing down of production in Europe, in
case the worst comes, will cause a heavy
drain upon our resources. Even though we
put an embargo upon exports, as other na-
tions are doing, the cost of living is likely
to increase. If hostilities are at all pro-
tracted the belligerents will look to two
nations to feed them—Argentina and the
United States. Meanwhile, we must our-
selves subsist.

The political and economic motives pro-
voking the European upheavals are long
standing. In a way, the issue comes under
the terms of that phrase once memorably ap-
plied to our own Civil War—"an irrepre-
sible conflict."

The Old World powers are lined up in two
coalitions:
The triple alliance, composed of Germany,
Austria, Italy.
The triple entente, composed of England,
France, Russia.

These two great divisions are the gradual
accretions of decades, the products of the
long efforts of diplomacy to create a balance
of power which in itself would keep peace.

But unexpected elements have entered to
make it conjectural if these paired-off coalitions
will stand, since a crisis and not a
theory is to the front. Italy already has
withdrawn from the triple alliance, advancing
a pretext. Her real reason is fear and
weakness from previous foolish ventures in
imperialism. England is striving with
might and main to sit the fence, well aware
of the blasting effects of a general melee. It
is doubtful if she will be successful.

Public opinion is the dominant force now,
inflamed by old hatreds, and kept skillfully
alive by designing and unscrupulous politi-
cians. Despite the close blood kin of the
rulers of Germany and England, the peoples
of the two countries hold a mutual deadly
hatred. England fears the commercial and
naval rivalry of Germany. Germany fears

the encroachments of Russia on the Baltic.
France yet remembers Alsace and Lorraine,
and hungers for "revanche." Russia must
protect Pan-Slavism, menaced by Austria's
attack upon Serbia, a Slav nation. Austria
seeks to check Pan-Slavic propaganda among
the subjects of her more unstable depen-
dencies, artificially engrafted on the empire
by subterranean and, here and there, in-
iquitous treaties.

Will Germany be caught as a nut between
the jaws of a cracker, France on one side
and Russia on the other? That depends
upon the efficiency of the armies of France
and Russia. The valor of the French and
the Russians is undeniable. But there have
been rumors of graft in both armies and
scandals about munitions. Russia is well-
nigh poverty-stricken.

Can England be the final arbiter in the ap-
peal to arms? England's fleets overpower the
sea. She can bottle up any nation. But
this, it seems, is to be a land war. Eng-
land's land power, compared to the power of
the other nations, is negligible. Then Eng-
land has subdued trouble in South Africa and
India, which, given the opportunity now pre-
sented, may focus and demand attention from
the mother country.

This is the devil's brew, as seen from a
broad survey. The complexities multiply, the
possibilities increase, the uncertainties thicken,
as one scans the situation. What will
happen is mere guesswork. This much is
established: should all Europe go to war, the
map of the Old World and the destiny of
the Old World will be reshaped and recast.
If the toes of any of the powers are pinched
in the Far East, Japan will enter, and then
the Orient will share in the general con-
fusion.

With everything conjectural, and likely to
remain so for weeks, America can afford op-
timism. Our country is in strong hands.
Our fundamental conditions are sound. We
can hope that if the God of Battles is to
plunge Europe into the melting pot, our own
nation may escape with tolerable conse-
quences.

A National Cigar Day
While the prospectus expressly states
that the proposed "National Cigar
Day" is not fathered by any "interests," it
is probably safe to assume that the cigar man-
ufacturers had something to do with the con-
ception of the idea. They need not be
ashamed of it. Even men who are not for-
tunate enough to be devotees of the weed
may be glad to lend their moral support to
any movement that protests against the grow-
ing practice in this country of permitting
self-appointed reformers to call everybody
else hard names about everything, while the
long-suffering mass of the people maintain a
rather shame-faced silence.

The enormous majority of our people are
a sober, industrious lot, contriving to get
along very quietly with astonishingly few
pleasures. No sane person doubts that most
of the men who are doing the work of this
country, upon whom our prosperity and very
existence rest, take an occasional glass of
something cheering and use tobacco in some
form. They are doing this without any con-
science. They are not organized, and, as we
have said, grin a sheepish grin when un-
pleasant epithets are applied to them. They
don't feel that they are tipplers, nor that
they "reek with the foul effluvia of tobacco."

A "National Cigar Day" is not likely to
amount to much, because most cigar smokers
consider their personal habits their personal
property and the business of nobody else—
except, of course, the self-elected reformer,
who doesn't count, anyhow.

Perhaps a National Protest Day Against
Those That Do Not Mind Their Own Busi-
ness might be more to the purpose, as
giving an opportunity to the mass of men
and women to laugh contemptuously at the
whole crew of nervous busybodies whose only
philosophy of life is that whatever other peo-
ple find pleasant must, for that reason, be
very bad for them.

Measures—and Men
TO the honor of the administration, it is
already apparent that neither "shirt-
sleeved diplomacy" nor partisan zeal is to
have any part in guiding the course of the
United States through this cataclysm in the
affairs of the nations. The European situa-
tion, as it may affect this country, has been
considered by the trained experts who are
at the head of the various departments of
our government, and its potential develop-
ments are being anticipated by a course of
action inspired by a high sense of practical
patriotism, in which all sense of party differ-
ences has been sunk.

In taking steps to avail the country of the
provisions of the Aldrich-Vreeland act, un-
der which the vast sum of \$500,000,000 in
currency may be released to the national
banks upon securities more common in the
ordinary course of business than United
States bonds, Secretary McAdoo and Com-
ptroller of the Currency Williams have proved
to the nation that it possesses not only
measures wisely designed for its protection,
but men capable and forceful enough to
make prompt and efficient use of them.

The reassurance which this action will un-
doubtedly spread throughout the country will
go far toward strengthening the conviction
of thoughtful men that the nation's ship of
state is commanded by far-seeing statesmen
and economists.

Authentic War News
IT is the duty of the newspaper to give the
fullest and most accurate reports of the
conflict of the powers which threatens to in-
volve all Europe, and The Times-Dispatch is
pleased to be able to offer to its readers the
reports of the two greatest news-gathering
bureaus the world has ever known—the As-
sociated Press and the International News
Service. The tentacles of these organizations
reach into every corner of the world, and the
people of Richmond and the South will find
in The Times-Dispatch a reliable history of
the conflict and its progress, which they may
follow with confidence.

For the latest and best war news, read The
Times-Dispatch.

Your old friend Governor Johnson, of Cali-
fornia, now asserts that he never called T. R.
a "double-dealer." All right, Hiram. Did
you merely think it?

If Germany merely wanted to find out
whether there was anything back of the tri-
ple entente, it has received the informa-
tion.

Perhaps when Senators Reed and Hitchcock
get back home they'll wish the session had
lasted forever.

It needed the war scare to completely jus-
tify the peace advocates.

WAYSIDE CHATS WITH OLD VIRGINIA EDITORS

Much perturbed is the Hanover Herald, cry-
ing out in consternation, "Isn't it awful that
one man by a single act may precipitate a world
war?" Verily. And awful it is contemplate
that an heir to the throne of Austria must go
down in history as Europe's Cook Robin, with
the attendant mystery as to the identity of the
actual wielder of the bow and arrow.

"That man in Goshen they call Friday seems
to have one friend left, as we note that the
friend has rushed into print and stated over
his own signature that Friday is not as black
as he was painted," comments the Clifton
Forge Review. But Friday's champion does
not essay to claim that he was, nevertheless
and notwithstanding, a very unlucky Friday.

That family affair in Europe into which all
of the powers are plunging, hammer and tongs,
doesn't worry the Staunton Daily Leader in the
least. The Leader's cheerful view of the situa-
tion is this: "The United States was never in
better condition to bear the shock of a general
foreign war. Never has the country produced
more to eat than this year, and never have the
government and the banks had so great finan-
cial resources. In proportion to the great busi-
ness of the country as a whole, there are fewer
unsafe loans than there ever were; there is
no topheaviness in the country's financial con-
dition, and it is ready to meet from abroad
all the American securities owned over there
as the foreigners dump them on us to get ready
money, and without seriously deranging our
regular business." But how much of the wor-
ry and strife should the Russian bear?

"The man of eighty and the woman of sev-
enty-five, who recently eloped, will hardly plead
that they were not old enough to know better,"
the editorial paragrapher of the Norfolk Vir-
ginian-Pilot and Landmark remarks, taking no
note of the very obvious and reasonable plea
that might be submitted, arma virumque.

Says the Norfolk Ledger-Dispatch: "It may
or may not be worth while to note that the
man claiming to be 129 years old and to have
been a moderate drinker of whiskey for a full
century resides in prohibition Kansas." The
force of the argument, however, is lost in the
admission that the aforesaid "moderate" drinker
made a "full" century of it.

"A Richmond woman broke a silk parasol
over the head of a young man who annoys her
on the street, the which is an excellent way to
avoid mashers. Would that there were more
silk parasols," says the Chase City Progress.
It must be remembered, however, that it takes
a Richmond woman to use it.

The Norfolk Virginian-Pilot's reprehensible
acquaintance is asleep on the job. For the first
time since the memory of man runneth not to
the contrary, he threatens to allow the summer
to pass without printing this recipe for mint
juleps as they used to make them in Peters-
burg just after the war.

Editor Barrett, of the Alexandria Gazette,
gives briefly the story of the first battle of
Bull Run, which occurred fifty-three years ago
Tuesday. Editor Barrett's memory is still good.

The Fredericksburg Free Lance is highly
pleased with the showing made by the reports
of the battle of Bull Run. It is careful to call at-
tention to the fact that they show that the busi-
ness manager plan has proven successful. It
usually does when given a fair trial.

THE PUBLIC PULSE
Editorial Expressions From Leading
Newspapers

Missouri Is With Wilson.
The men in Washington who are trying to
put the president in a tight place by showing
himself the kind of opposition he has and
hurting themselves by revealing their desires
and purposes. Though Woodrow Wilson has
been in the White House but a few months,
he has proven worthy of the confidence of the
nation. No man has ever gained a
stronger hold on the public in a shorter time,
and none is more secure in the affections of
his countrymen. Not so much, however, can
be said for the men who, professing to be
Democrats, have spent their time and energies
in trying to bring disaster upon the adminis-
tration.—Kansas City Star.

Destructiveness of War.
A warning to the world as to the destructiv-
ness of modern weapons of warfare is furnished
by the report of the international commission
to investigate the destructiveness of modern
weapons. The commission, which was made
up of 1,500,000 men in the armies of all the
nations engaged in the two Balkan wars, and
of these one-third, or about 500,000 men, were
killed or wounded, although the war was
included in the space of a single year. This
was more than twice the number killed and
wounded in the war between Russia and Japan,
which also lasted only a year. The figures
testify to the destructiveness of modern war-
fare. The commission is of the opinion that
the nations which have been the victims of
this war have suffered a loss of population
and of resources which will take many years
to replace. The commission also found that
the war had caused a loss of life and property
which was far greater than in any previous
war. The commission's report is a warning
to the world that modern warfare is a
crime against humanity.—London Opinion.

For the Sake of Alleviation.
So far the list of afflicted cities includes
Wonderful Washington, Marvelous Manhattan,
Hollering Houston, Busy Birmingham, Com-
fortable Columbus, Ripening Richmond, Arid
Austin, Shifty Chicago, Nasty Nashville, Putrid
Pittsburgh, Painful Providence, Naughty Nor-
folk, Maltreated Milwaukee, and last, but
not least, Maltreated Jacksonville.—Jacksonville Times-Union.

An Even-Song.
In Ireland dukes are nearly as scarce as
snakes. The Duke of Leinster is "sole duke."
Carton, his principal seat, is about a mile
from Maynooth, in Kildare, and is one of the
finest residences in the British Isles.
—Sydney Dobell.

Electric Cars.
Where and when were electric cars first op-
erated? H. F. T.
Omitting experiments in Richmond, Va., where
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Order Thirteen.
Was any final disposition ever made of the
charges made in the speeches of Blaine and
Morse, etc., that General Winder issued orders
that the prisoners at Andersonville should be
killed in the event of the approach of Federal
forces to that place?
This is the order often known as "Order No.
13." The whole matter is folly. When General
Winder succeeded Person at Andersonville, June
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bered all orders consecutively with those al-
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der's first general order was numbered forty-
three, and was his order taking over the com-
mand. His first special order was numbered 104. Hence,
it is impossible that he could ever have issued
any Andersonville order with the number thir-
teen. A final disposition of the matter was
made in the report of W. C. Endicott, Secretary
of War, dated October 12, 1877, declaring that
there was no trace of any such order in the
Confederate records.

WHAT WAS NEWS, FIFTY YEARS AGO

From the Richmond Dispatch August 4, 1864.

An official dispatch from Petersburg states
that there was another cessation of hostilities
on Monday morning, May 10, 1864, at the
request of General Grant, in order that the
remaining Federal slain at the mine might be
buried.

Seven hundred Confederates slain at the mine
in the brief time the terrible battle raged suf-
ficiently illustrates the bloody nature of the
fight.

The estimates of the Federal loss at the mine
are increasing. Pending the flag of truce on
Monday morning, one of General Burnside's aids
stated to a Confederate officer that it had so
far been ascertained that the Federal loss was
between 4,000 and 5,000.

Yesterday, up to the time of the departure
of the train from Petersburg, everything was
quiet in that city. No bombarding and very
little picket firing.

Pending the flag of truce at Petersburg yes-
terday morning, the Federal and Confederate
officers talked freely with each other. One of
the former told one of the latter that General
Grant had official information that Confed-
erate cavalry had entered and captured Cham-
bersburg. The latest Northern papers
received in this city make no mention of such
a thing, and there is no information on the
subject to be had at the Confederate capital.

The latest Atlanta dispatch says that in the
last fighting that took place there Tuesday
General Stewart and Loring were badly
wounded.

There has been a most furious shelling of
Atlanta for the past three days. A lady was
killed by a shell at the Atlanta depot yesterday
morning.

According to the new and increased schedule
of prices, flour is now selling in Richmond: fine,
\$3.30 per barrel; superfine, \$3.75; extra superfine,
\$3.75; family, \$4.15.

Mr. Mary B. Bates, of Danville, was brought
to this city yesterday, charged with harboring
two deserters from the Confederate army. The
men were sons-in-law of Mrs. Bates, and it is
said that she had secreted them in a caddy of
her house in such an ingenious way as to baffle
the officers searching for them for several weeks.
She was sent on to Judge Halyburton's court,
being given quarters in Castle Thunder in the
meantime.

The weather has again become intensely hot
and very dry. The crops in Virginia, as well
as the soldiers, are needing rain very much.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Protect Our Food Staples.
To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:
Sir,—Increase in the cost of food staples to a
point 20, 30, or even 50 per cent higher than
the figure from which they were sold a week
ago is the prospect confronting the American
consumer to-day if Europe becomes involved
in war, according to advices received from the
wholesale and retail trade. The stock exchanges
have closed to prevent a gold famine. Now it
is up to the government at Washington to
follow the examples of Europe and immediately
prohibit the export of all foodstuffs abroad.
Our working and salaried classes must have
bread. The cost of living is already entirely
out of proportion to rate of wages paid. Our
people are starving, and living should be cheap-
ened. The American people should demand that
the food produced in this country remain at
home, for home consumption, and be sold at a
reasonable price, and not shipped abroad to
feed Europeans engaged in murdering each
other. A gold famine is bad enough—but it is
nothing to a bread famine.

Richmond, August 3. T. D. FREY.

THE BRIGHT SIDE

Just a Century Ahead.
"On yonder hill," cried the general, scanning
the battlefield with his glasses, "I see a black
mass of humanity. What are they?"
"Camera flashes" replied the second-in-
command.
"And who are occupying that field to the
southwest?"
"Those," answered the S. I. C. "are operators
for the Go-Ahead Picture Company."
"I see a battalion with curious-shaped
guns!"
"They are not guns; they are gramophones
and phonographs, in which are to be recorded
the roar of cannon and the cries of the
wounded."
"His well!" exclaimed the general, fondling
his beard complacently. "Let the battle begin!"
—Pearson's Weekly.

Unreasonable.
George Bernard Shaw is one of the few vehem-
ent who have remained true to the faith,
and in a recent letter to a woman, reproach-
ing him for his fight against the cigarette when
still at meat, Mr. Shaw said:
"The lack of logic prevails everywhere! We
call it logic, ferocious and raving beast,
but what would you ladies be called if, for
example, the lamb chop had a voice?"—London
Opinion.

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QUERIES AND ANSWERS

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of War, dated October 12, 1877, declaring that
there was no trace of any such order in the
Confederate records.

Some Consolation.
If the war causes some of the I. W.
W. leaders to go back where they
came from, that will be some conso-
lation to the United States.—Phila-
delphia Ledger.

The End of An Unsuccessful Mission

ONE OF THE DAY'S BEST CARTOONS.



From the Baltimore Sun.

Dr. Brady's Health Talks

SPECIALIST VS. PLAIN DOCTOR.

"What does an ordinary family physi-
cian know about the treatment of
the ear?" asks one of our corre-
spondents. "Is it not his duty to refer
such a case to a specialist?"

The ordinary family doctor is a very
valuable quantity in different commu-
nities and in different times. Until
twenty years ago—say the past fifteen or
twenty—physicians were gradu-
ated from medical schools with little
or no training in the various specialties.
There are still men in family prac-
tice who are not only unable to ex-
amine the nose, throat, ear, or eye,
having no special ability to enter
the profession—but they are
incompetent to even diagnose suppu-
ration in the ear, polyps in the nose, or
a cinder in the corner of the eye. Yet
they may be successful in other lines.

The Younger Generation.
But your modern family doctor, the
younger generation of medical practi-
tioners, doesn't leave college to enter
practice in a hurry. He spends a year
or two as interne or house physician
in a hospital, where he works with and
for the doctors on the staff, many of
whom are specialists. This new order
of family physicians are fully com-
petent and usually well equipped to
treat the ordinary disease of eye, ear,
nose, throat and other specialties. In-
deed, the progressive family doctor
is often more successful in the man-
agement of the common eye, nose, ear
or throat troubles than is his neighbor,
the specialist. The specialist's proper
field is not the treatment of all dis-
easements of organs which interest
him in his specialty, but the treatment
of difficult or unusual complications in
cases referred to him by the family
doctor.

In many instances ailments of spe-
cial organs are only local manifesta-
tions of some general disturbance of
health which must have attention
which the specialist, for want of ex-
perience in general practice, is unable
to give. If each and every danger-
ment of the eye, ear, nose, throat,
nerves, heart, etc., were referred to
a specialist there would be no need of
family doctors at all. This would be
right enough if patients were able
to decide for themselves whether a
headache, let us say, comes from eye-
strain, disease of a sinus in the head,
kidney insufficiency, anemia, nerve ex-
haustion or fault in the stomach.

The more fact that a man calls him-
self a specialist or limits his practice
to a specialty is no evidence of his ex-
pert ability. It must be remembered
that the law requires the same quali-
fications in a general practitioner, a
family doctor, which it requires in the
surgeon or the specialist. In the in-
dividual case, however, you have to
use your own good judgment.

Questions and Answers.
C. S. writes: Girl of sixteen has
had swollen glands for six weeks.
She has sore throat a good deal and
her tonsils are enlarged. (1) Would
it weaken her to have them removed?
(2) How much blood is lost in the
operation? (3) Would it cure the
swollen glands? (4) Should I wait
till they disappear as she grows older?
Reply: (1) No. (2) Too little to con-
sider. (3) It would if the tonsils alone
are the cause. There